IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Application of CERTIFICATE OF MAILI BARRY M. VERDEGAN ET AL I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Appln. No. 09/745,754 Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 28th Filed: December 21, 2000 day of March, 2003 Examiner: David A. Reifsnyder Group Art Unit: 1723 Mark Chile **EXTENDED LIFE COMBINATION FILTER AMENDMENT** Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2003, please amend the above identified application, as set forth on the following pages.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.